

Amendments to the Specification

Kindly replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 8, with the following amended paragraph:

--This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/699,146, filed October 27, 2000, now abandoned, which claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/162,701, filed October 29, 1999; and is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/644,190, filed August 22, 2000, now abandoned, which claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/150,330, filed August 23, 1999.--

Kindly replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 25, with the following amended paragraph:

--In specific embodiments, isolated polynucleotides are provided that comprise a polynucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of: (a) sequences recited in SEQ ID NOS: 1-6; (b) complements of the sequences recited in SEQ ID NOS: 1-6; (c) reverse complements of the sequences recited in SEQ ID NOS: 1-6; (d) reverse sequences of the sequences recited in SEQ ID NOS: 1-6; and (e) ~~sequences having a 99% probability of being to the same as a sequence of (a)-(d), determined as described below;~~ and (f) sequences having at least 75%, 90% or 95% identity to a sequence of (a)-(d), the percentage identity being determined as described below. Polynucleotides comprising at least a specified number of contiguous residues ("x-mers") of any of the sequences identified as SEQ ID NOS: 1-6 are also provided, together with extended sequences, and oligonucleotide probes and primers corresponding to the sequences set out in SEQ ID NOS: 1-6. All of these polynucleotides and oligonucleotide probes and primers are collectively referred to herein as "polynucleotides of the present invention".--

Kindly replace the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 1, with the following amended paragraph:

--In a related aspect, polypeptides are provided that comprise at least a functional portion of a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence encoded by a polynucleotide of

the present invention. As used herein, the “functional portion” of a polypeptide is that portion which contains the active site essential for affecting the function of the polypeptide, for example, the portion of the molecule that is capable of binding one or more reactants. The active site may be made up of separate portions present on one or more polypeptide chains and will generally exhibit high binding affinity. Based on similarity to known histatin polypeptides, including, for example, those disclosed in International Patent Publication WO 96/40768, the sequences of SEQ ID NO: 7, 8 and 10 were identified as containing the ~~putative~~ putative functional motifs, or domains, provided in SEQ ID NO: 13 and 14. Polypeptides containing such functional motifs possess anti-microbial activity.--